

CLAIMS:

1. Method of writing an optical disc having a user storage space, the method comprising the steps of:
 - determining a reserved storage section of the user storage space for use by a specific application;
 - 5 – determining which parts of said reserved storage section are free for writing, i.e. not occupied;
 - allocating all addresses in those free parts to a reservation file.
2. Method according to claim 1, wherein the reservation file is declared into a
10 file allocation list which is stored in a predetermined portion of storage space of the disc.
3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the reservation file has a predetermined name.
- 15 4. Method according to any of the previous claims, wherein the reservation file is declared as a non-relocateable file.
5. Method according to any of the previous claims, wherein the reservation file is an empty file.
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6. Method of writing an optical disc having a user storage space, the method comprising the steps of:
 - writing user data into the user storage space in response to a write command;
 - after the writing operation of the user data is completed, performing the method steps
25 according to any of claims 1-5.
7. User-writeable optical disc having a user storage space, and a file allocation list stored in a predetermined portion of storage space of the disc, the file allocation list containing at least one reservation file.

8. User-writeable optical disc according to claim 7, wherein the at least one reservation file has been declared in accordance with any of claims 1-6.

5 9. Method of writing information to an optical disc according to claim 7 or 8, the method comprising the steps of:

- receiving a user command indicating an amendment to the size of said reserved storage section;
- accordingly, defining a new start address and/or a new end address of the at least one reservation file;
- 10 – updating the file allocation list in respect of the reservation file.

10. Method of writing information to an optical disc according to claim 7 or 8, the method comprising the steps of:

- 15 – writing user data into the user storage space in response to a write command;
- after the writing operation of the user data is completed, updating the file allocation list in respect of the reservation file.

11. Method according to claim 10, wherein addresses for writing the user data are selected on the basis of application-specific recording location information regarding location and extent of recorded areas.

12. Method according to claim 10, wherein, in order to determine addresses available for writing the user data, said file allocation list is consulted to determine the free parts of reserved storage space as secured by said at least one reservation file, and wherein addresses for writing the user data are selected within said free parts.

13. Method according to claim 12, wherein, if it appears that the size of the free area is insufficient to accommodate the information to be written, the following steps are taken:

- 30 – determining whether the user storage space outside said reserved storage section, either by itself or in combination with the free area already found, contains a storage space portion suitable and sufficient for accommodating the information to be written, taking into account existing files as determined by said file allocation list;

- allocating all addresses within said portion to a reservation file in order to increase the size of said reserved storage section.

14. Method according to any of claims 9-13, wherein the step of updating the file allocation list comprises the steps of:
- determining which parts of said reserved storage section are still free for writing, i.e. not occupied;
 - allocating all addresses in those free parts to said at least one reservation file, and entering the updated at least one reservation file into said file allocation list; or, alternatively,
- 10 updating the corresponding data in the file allocation list.

15. Apparatus, comprising a signal processing system capable of communicating with a disc drive system of a disc drive apparatus, the signal processing system being designed for executing a method according to any of claims 1-6 or 9-14.